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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/586,156

07/14/2006

Yasuyuki Arai

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EXAMINER

TAYLOR, APRIL ALICIA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2887

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/586,156	Applicant(s) ARAI ET AL.	
	Examiner APRIL A. TAYLOR	Art Unit 2887	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 January 2010.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-36 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 15-36 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3, 6-10, 13 and 14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4, 5, 11 and 12 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Receipt is acknowledged of the Amendment filed 1/29/2010. Claims 1-36 are pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Claims 1-3, 6-10, and 13-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kuroda et al (US 6,585,165) (hereinafter Kuroda) in view of Reddy (US 20020094639 A1).

Re claims 1, 2, 8 and 9: Kuroda teaches an IC card including:

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a label substratum (1) over which an antenna (2) is formed;
an integrated circuit device (3) provided in contact with the label substratum;
a separating sheet (15), wherein the separating sheet is configured to be peeled from the adhesive (14);

an adhesive (14) provided between the label substratum (1) and the separating sheet (15); and

wherein the antenna and the integrated circuit device are connected through a cross wiring. (See figure 1B; col. 3, lines 9+)

Kuroda fails to specifically teach or fairly suggest wherein the integrated circuit device is a thin film integrated circuit device including a thin film transistor.

Reddy discloses a RFID tag having an integrated circuit device including a thin film transistor (see paragraphs 0027-0029). In view of Reddy's teaching, it would have been obvious to an artisan of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the well known thin film transistor to the teachings of Kuroda in order to reduce the manufacturing cost of the IC card.

Re claims 3 and 10: Kuroda as modified by Reddy teaches a protective layer (outer film 13) comprising a single layer formed on a lower surface of the integrated circuit device (see figure 1B; col. 3, lines 14-18). Kuroda fails to specifically teaches wherein the protective layer (13) contains silicon oxide, silicon nitride or silicon oxynitride.

Reddy discloses a substrate having a layer of silicon nitride (see paragraph 0015). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ a silicon nitride material to the teachings of Kuroda in order to effectively protect the electrical components in the IC card.

Re claims 6, 7, 13 and 14: Kuroda as modified by Reddy fails to specifically teach wherein a size of the integrated circuit device is 0.09 to 25 mm^2 ; and wherein a thickness of the integrated circuit device is 0.1 to $3\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ (see col. 4, lines 55+). However, it would have been an obvious matter of design choice to use an integrated circuit device having a particular size as recited in the claims, since such a modification would have involved a mere change in the size of a component. A change in size is generally recognized as being within the level of ordinary skill in the art. In re Rose, 105 USPQ 237 (CCPA 1955).

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4, 5, 11, and 12 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 15-36 are allowable over the prior art of record.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

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Re claims 4 and 11: The prior of record, taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or fairly suggest, in conjunction with other limitations in the claims, wherein in the case where the protective layer is formed on the upper surface and the lower surface of the thin film integrated circuit device, it is placed the thin film integrated circuit device at a position of $(d/2) \pm 30 \text{ um}$ or less when a total thickness of the thin film integrated circuit device and the top and bottom protective films is d .

Re claims 5 and 12: The prior of record, taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or fairly suggest, in conjunction with other limitations in the claims, wherein a semiconductor film of the thin film transistor included in the thin film integrated circuit device contains hydrogen or halogen of 0.0005 to 5 atomic %.

Re claim 15-18, 23-26, 31, 32 and 36: The prior of record, taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or fairly suggest, in conjunction with other limitations in the claims, an insulating layer over the antenna; and a wiring formed on the insulating layer, wherein the wiring is connected to the antenna through a contact hole formed in the insulating layer.

Re claim 19-22, 27-30, and 33-35: The prior of record, taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or fairly suggest, in conjunction with other limitations in the claims, an internal substratum having a first surface and a second surface opposing to the first surface; an antenna formed over the first surface of the internal substratum; and a wiring formed on the second surface of the internal substratum, wherein the wiring is electrically connected to the thin film transistor and a part of the antenna through a contact hole formed in the internal substratum.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-3, 6-10, 13 and 14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Takayama et al (US 7,652,359)

Mande (US 6,173,898)

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to APRIL A. TAYLOR whose telephone number is (571)272-2403. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 7:00AM - 3:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven S. Paik can be reached on (571) 272-2404. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Thien M. Le/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2887

/AAT/
Examiner, AU 2887
May 22, 2010

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